

OPC Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • MARCH 2005

OPC Event Preview:

Kim Jong Il: Madman or Master Strategist?

By William J. Holstein

Few leaders in the world are more cloaked in mystery than North Korean leader Kim Jong Il, whose development of nuclear weapons has placed him squarely in the Bush Administration's "axis of evil." Is Kim bent on self-destruction or is he manipulating the nuclear issue to secure money, food and fuel for his desperately impoverished nation?

That question will be the subject of a panel discussion on Monday, March 21 (Reception at 5:30pm with discussion beginning at 6:15pm) at Club Quarters entitled, "Kim Jong Il: Madman or Master Strategist?" It will feature three of the world's top experts on Kim and

his Hermit Kingdom.

The first is Bradley K. Martin, author of a new book titled, "Under the Loving Care of the Fatherly Leader: North Korea and the Kim Dynasty." Martin, who now teaches journalism at Louisiana State University, covered North Korea and Asia for more than a quarter century for *The Baltimore Sun*, *The Asian Wall Street Journal*, *Newsweek* and other publications. He made four reporting trips to North Korea. "Under the Loving Care" is his second book on North Korea.

Martin will be joined by Kongdan "Katy" Oh, a veteran of RAND, and now a nonresident
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Kim Jong Il

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Fenton Launches Book, Assails 'Mindless Race for Ratings'

By Doug Merlino

Veteran CBS correspondent Tom Fenton fingered "corporate greed and indifference" for a calamitous decline in the quality of American journalism during a Feb. 28 talk at Club Quarters, sparking a heated conversation among those who braved a swelling snowstorm to make it to the event.

"The news media have lost their basic purpose, which is to gather news, to convey it to the public, if possible foresee events, and to give the news meaning and context," Fenton told the crowd, which included CBS stalwarts Mike Wallace and Andy Rooney as well as Sandy Socolow, Walter Cronkite's producer, and Richard Leibner, Dan Rather's agent.

The mood for the event was set when Rooney walked in a few minutes late and grumbled at Fenton: "I hope your speech

is better than the weather."

Fenton, a CBS news correspondent for three decades, was promoting his new book, "Bad News: The Death of Reporting, the Business of News, and the Danger to Us All." He made a case that unless changes are made, American journalism, especially TV news, is in a death spiral.

"How did the networks get to the point, when given a choice between reporting on a new diet fad or on President Putin's takeover of a big chunk of the Russian oil industry, they would most probably choose the diet fad?" asked Fenton, an OPC member who reported on stories such as the fall of the Shah of Iran, the end of Communism in East Germany and the rise of Al Qaeda.

In an era where America dominates
(Continued on Page 15)

Looking Back at *Yank*, 60 Years Later

By Barrett McGurn

This year is the 60th anniversary of the end of an experiment in democratic military journalism that succeeded in World War II but is unlikely to ever be repeated.

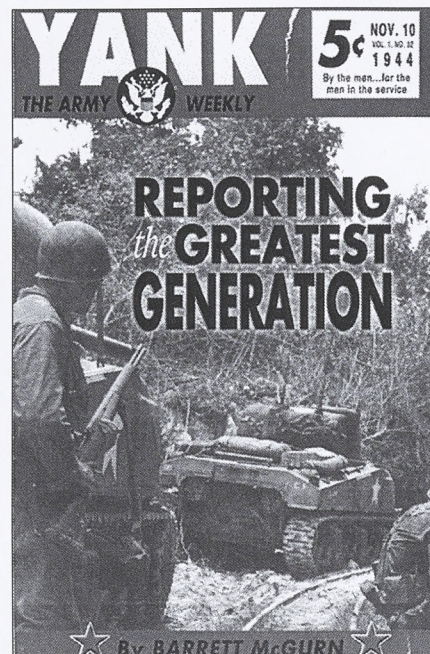
Franklin Roosevelt, an artful politician, wanted the weekly *Yank* magazine to be run by enlisted men without officer interference because he realized that a mostly draftee army of 14 million would always be civilian at heart. Accustomed

to freedom, those ordered into uniform would need an intellectual clearing house of their own in which to share hopes, fears and laughter.

Great generals like Patton and MacArthur thought otherwise. In an army there must be an unbroken chain of command from the civilian commander in chief down to the rawest recruit. In the view of such generals, there was no place for a magazine with four million serviceman readers beyond the control of officers.

The problem facing objectors was that the president himself wished to surrender the editorial power to the troops. In a message to *Yank*, filling page two of the first issue in June 1942, Roosevelt took note that not only was such a venture unprecedented but that in most countries and armies it was inconceivable. He wished *Yank's* staffers good luck in their service to the country and promised to take time out each week to skim the contents. He and his family were true to the words. When shortage of space bumped *Yank* off the Roosevelt funeral train in 1945, the Roosevelt family bumped the soldier magazine back on.

Yank succeeded as a significant morale factor in winning World War II because the 350 of us on the staff were not seditious. The country had been attacked by a visible enemy and we were convinced of the need for defense. That did not mean that we had no gripes. To the contrary, the weekly cartoons began



Book Jacket

teasing newly commissioned second lieutenants and wound up jeering at pot bellied major-generals. The regular Mail Call feature allowed the humblest "government issue," the least valued GI, to air his beefs not only in the privacy of his company latrine but on all the continents as well. When one major made use of brutal corporal punishment, a letter to Mail Call triggered the officer's dishonorable discharge.

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OPC Online

Beginning next month, the *OPC Bulletin* will be distributed online through the club's website. When new issues are published, we will send an e-mail to alert you. You will then be able to sign in on the homepage, at www.opcofamerica.org, and download a PDF version of the issue. If you wish to still receive a paper copy of the Bulletin, please call 212-626-9220 or send an e-mail to sonya@opcofamerica.org.

Also, please remember that the website is updated frequently and includes features such as Michael Moran's *Sword and Pen* weblog as well as articles published only online.

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Middle East—Covering the Coverage

By Al Kaff

"Our armies do not come into your cities and lands as conquerors or enemies, but as liberators."

—British Lieutenant General Stanley Maude in Baghdad in 1917, after which insurgents murdered British officers.

January 21

European press reacted quickly to President Bush's inaugural speech calling for freedom around the world and an end to tyranny:

Die Welt, Germany: "A little bit of this spirit would do the Old World good and help it to renew itself."

El Mundo, Madrid: "The president has charged himself with nothing less than 'ending tyranny in the world.' If Bush decided to fully apply this maxim to the letter, he should immediately cut off relations with countries like China and Saudi Arabia, which are not exactly models of liberty."

The Times, London: "The U.S. will continue to regard the threat posed by radical Islamists, the dangers of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and the behavior of rogue states such as North Korea with more urgency than France and Germany [which might] ponder what it is about the promotion of freedom that they regard as so alien and objectionable."

La Repubblica, Rome: "[Bush] finally feels at peace with himself, is satisfied with himself and thus is even more disturbing.... There is a sense of a man who now considers the entire world as his own parish."

The Daily Telegraph, London: "Officials know full well that Mr. Bush will, if he thinks necessary, sweep Iraq's problems under the Oval Office carpet and seek to bring an end to North Korea's and Iran's nuclear programs."

Le Monde, Paris: "We can fear that, in the eyes of Mr. Bush, the criteria for tyranny would essentially be hostility toward the United States and that he would be inclined to close his eyes to the democratic failings of regimes that show cooperativeness."

Frankfurter Rundschau: "In his first term, he [Bush] declared the war on terror—without any doubt a good idea—and along the way he massively cut down on civil liberties in the U.S.A. and demolished the relations with many allies."

Die Tageszeitung, Berlin: "The conti-

nunity from his first term will remain, but at the same time this U.S. government will have more sense of mission, and do whatever it thinks is right and won't have anyone else disturb it.... The horror is justified."

Libération, Paris: "It's on a cloud that George W. Bush went through these three days of ceremonies, galas, candlelight dinners and balls.... The Texan, who generally likes to present himself as an average guy, gave in to the pleasure of majesty."

And in Australia, cartoonist Vince O'Farrell poked his pen at Bush.

January 24

Doubleday will publish translated writings of Al Qaeda next year and donate profits from the book to charities that are aiding American victims of ter-

KIM JONG IL

(Continued from Page 1)

senior fellow at the Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies at the Brookings Institution in Washington. A speaker of Korean, Japanese and Chinese, Oh is widely published and quoted. In addition to possessing deep expertise on internal developments in North Korea, she specializes in Japan's and China's policies toward the Korean peninsula. She is currently consulting on North Korea for the U.S. Department of Defense.

The third panelist is David Kang, associate professor in the Center for International Business at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth. His most recent book on North Korea, published in 2003, was titled, "Nuclear North Korea: A Debate on Engagement Strategies." He has made many appearances on television and is also widely quoted.

The subject of North Korea and Kim could hardly be more timely. The North Koreans have announced that they possess nuclear weapons, a claim that South Korea disputes. But everyone seems to agree that the North possesses weapon-grade uranium, even if it hasn't been fashioned into actual weapons. The country also has tested missiles that would easily reach Japan, causing deep concern in Tokyo.

North Korea has recently withdrawn from six-way diplomatic talks that also included South Korea, Japan, China, Russia and the United States. Japan is



An Australian cartoonist's view of the Bush inauguration.

rorism. Tentatively titled "The Al Qaeda Reader," the book will include material attributed to Osama bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri, Al Qaeda's second in command.

(Continued on Page 14)

considering imposing tough sanctions that would cut off vital economic exchanges between its population of 200,000 ethnic Koreans, who are sympathetic to Pyongyang, and North Korea. China, which possesses the largest economic levers in terms of food and fuel, is dispatching a delegation to Pyongyang to persuade it to return to the six-way talks.

South Korea, meanwhile, has been pursuing a policy of détente with the North under the leadership of left-leaning President Roh Moo-hyun. Economic ties between the two are beginning to take hold and transportation links may be established across the Demilitarized Zone, which despite its name is home to the world's most extensive military standoff. The estimated one million members of North Korea's army deployed nearby wield missiles and artillery that could reduce Seoul, some 35 miles away, to ashes.

Few experts believe that Kim wants to strike a neighboring country with nuclear weapons because that would almost certainly result in an overwhelming U.S. military response. But he has sold nuclear and missile technology to nations that the Bush Administration considers "rogue" states, such as Libya. How to manage the North Korean issue thus shapes up as one of the toughest foreign policy dilemmas confronting the Bush administration—and at the center of that dilemma is the smiling face of Kim Jong Il.

Schlesinger Urges Scholarship Winners to 'Shine a Light'

By Doug Merlino

David Schlesinger, global managing editor and head of editorial operations for Reuters, warned this year's OPC Foundation scholarship winners that foreign correspondence is a dangerous and sometimes tenuous way to make a living. But he urged them to persevere with their love of story telling and commitment to the truth at a luncheon honoring this year's 12 scholarship winners at the Yale Club in New York City.

"If you're in this business, you have a love of adventure and a passion for action," Schlesinger, an OPC member, told the students and a crowd of over 200 guests gathered for the 14th annual scholarship luncheon, held on Jan. 28. "You're a voyeur of the best kind, getting a charge out of watching people do things, getting a thrill out of seeing the world change, getting worked up about understanding how things fit together or fall apart. And most importantly, you have a love of the story and of story telling."

The 12 recipients of the \$2,000 scholarships—chosen from 175 applicants—have an extraordinary range of interests, including the conflict in the Indian state of Nagaland, sumo wrestlers, the situation of ethnic minorities in Pakistan, the shortage of water in Haiti, and the lives of Lebanese teenagers. Many of the scholarship winners—who represent six universities and include undergraduate and graduate students—will use their scholarships to fund reporting trips overseas.

"By applying for and getting these scholarships, you have chosen the way of 'being there' instead of looking for a shortcut just to 'being someone,'" Schlesinger told the scholarship winners. "If you go to the scene, if you report well and honestly, if you write with vigor and authority, if you take the picture or image that matters, the 'being someone' may follow. But even if it doesn't, you'll have been places, seen things, experienced and lived. And that, in the end, is why we should bother: because those kinds of adventures really matter."

Schlesinger said journalists have done vital work in exposing the genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan, in revealing the magnitude of the catastrophe caused by

the Asian Tsunami, and in pursuing every angle of the conflict in Iraq despite the danger of working in the country and attempts by the coalition military forces to control the story.

At the same time, Schlesinger cautioned that it is a challenging time to be entering the profession, with shrinking newspaper readership, competition from blogs, entertainment-driven media corporations, scandals within journalism and declining public trust in the work of journalists.

"It's a dangerous profession, a frustrating profession. A profession where the voice of truth and objective fact may just not be listened to," Schlesinger said. "And it's a profession where it has seemed really hard these past four years just to get a chance to practice it."

Schlesinger said that, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, 56 journalists were killed last year. Most of those were "local staff," Schlesinger said, working for low pay in bad conditions. Many of this year's scholarship winners will probably also start their careers as stringers, Schlesinger said.

"It's so important to remember that making your name in the business is not worth losing your life in an accident," he said. "Don't overstretch, don't cut corners. There'll always be another story, if you play it right."

This year's scholarship recipients attend universities across the country.

They include three students from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism: John Kearney received the Alexander Kendrick Scholarship; Kristen Gillespie received the Irene Corbally Kuhn Scholarship; and Maria Ahmed received the Stan Swinton Scholarship.

Three recipients attend the University of California at Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism: Shlomi Simhi received the Harper's Magazine Scholarship in memory of I.F. Stone; Jacob Adelman received the H.L. Stevenson Scholarship; and Malgorzata Wozniacka received the Flora Lewis Scholarship.

There were also three winners from NYU's Graduate School of Journalism: Wanfeng Zhou received the Reuters Scholarship; Charles Hack received the Roy Rowan Scholarship; and Mathew



David Schlesinger

Fleischer received the Dan Eldon Scholarship.

Emily Steel, a student at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, received the David R. Schweisberg Scholarship; Marina Walker Guevara, who attends the University of Missouri's Graduate School of Journalism, received the Emanuel R. Freedman Scholarship; and Christina Hildreth of the University of Michigan received the Theo Wilson Scholarship.

Schlesinger encouraged the recipients to remain true to their highest ideals.

"During those times when you're wondering whether or not you should continue to bother—for there will be times of frustration and exhaustion and even despair—remember your commitment to truth. Remember that shining light on dark places matters. Remember that you have a gift for storytelling and an obligation to yourself and to the world to share it. Remember the sparkling excitement that this journey will always have as its potential."

The OPC is grateful to the companies and organizations that supported this year's scholarship lunch. Patrons included Bloomberg, CBS News, *Chief Executive Magazine*, DaimlerChrysler, Ford Motor Company, General Motors, Merck & Co. Inc., *Newsweek*, Reuters and Waggener Edstrom. Friends included Deloitte & Touche USA LLP, the Knight-Bagehot Fellowship, Robert Marston & Associates, the Scripps Howard Foundation and Weber Shandwick Worldwide.

OPC Foundation Scholarship Winners for 2005

Following is a list of the 2005 scholarship recipients, their affiliations, the prize they won, the presenter, and a brief description of the winning applications. The winners emerged from a highly competitive selection process. They were chosen from a pool of 175 applicants from 60 different American colleges and universities.

JOHN KEARNEY
Columbia University
Graduate School of Journalism
ALEXANDER KENDRICK
SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by his brother, Victor, and DaimlerChrysler.

Presented by Han Tjan, DaimlerChrysler
Inspired by a Department of Defense report that revealed frankly the government's own ineptitude at dialogue with the Islamic world and in understanding Muslim attitudes and concerns, John believes the news media must be both the deliverer of breaking news and the source of history and context. The Oberlin College graduate wrote about an entrepreneurial Palestinian shopkeeper whose business was leveled by Israeli bulldozers.

◆
EMILY STEEL
University of North Carolina/Chapel Hill
DAVID R. SCHWEISBERG
SCHOLARSHIP

*Sponsored by his family.
Presented by his father,
Emanuel Schweisberg*

After an internship at *Shanghai Daily*, this college junior is compelled to investigate the social, policy and economic implications of China's one-child policy, fully aware that China's own censors would prevent any internal, meaningful study of the issue. Emily wrote about Zhu Yuanchen, now a student at Harvard, who benefited from the only-child policy that allows the few to "live, dream and become."

◆
WANFENG ZHOU
New York University
Graduate School of Journalism
REUTERS SCHOLARSHIP

*Sponsored by Reuters.
Presented by Betty Wong,
Reuters Managing Editor, Americas*
Earning a Master's degree at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Commun-



From left (front row) Christina Hildreth, University of Michigan; Kristen Gillespie, Columbia; Marina Walker Guevara, University of Missouri School of Journalism; and Jacob Adelman, Berkeley; (back row) Charles Hack, NYU; Matthew Fleischer, NYU; Malgorzata Wozniacka, Berkeley; Shlomi Simhi, Berkeley; Emily Steel, UNC at Chapel Hill; Maria Ahmed, Columbia; John Kearney, Columbia; and Wanfeng Zhou, NYU.

ication at Syracuse, Wanfeng realized how little Americans know about China beyond human rights, birth control and an authoritarian press system. "How to cover China, a new rising power and the fastest growing economy in the world?" prompted her to pursue a second Master's at NYU to gain the perspective and experience to inform and educate the Chinese public and international readers about the critical economic changes occurring in the country. Whereas once "when America sneezes, the rest of the world catches a cold," today, Wanfeng warns, "when China moves, the world crosses its fingers."

◆
SHLOMI SIMHI
Graduate School of Journalism at
University of California at Berkeley
HARPER'S MAGAZINE
SCHOLARSHIP
in memory of I.F.Stone

*Endowed by John R. MacArthur,
publisher of Harper's, and friends.
Presented by John R. MacArthur*

An Israeli lawyer and a former law clerk in the Supreme Court of Israel, Shlomi's experience as a New York City tourist-turned-correspondent for an Israeli newspaper in September 2001 rekindled his original passion for journalism. In his essay he wrote about the possible candidacy of the imprisoned Palestinian Fatah leader Marwan Barghouti to replace Yasser Arafat.

KRISTEN GILLESPIE
Columbia University
Graduate School of Journalism
IRENE CORBALLY KUHN
SCHOLARSHIP

*Endowed by the
Scripps Howard Foundation.
Presented by Pamela Howard*

In her essay Kristen wrote about the culture of violence that pervades the city of Baalbek, a Hizbollah stronghold in Lebanon's Beqaa Valley where "the scars of perpetual war refuse to heal." With both a BA and MA from American University, she intends to return to Jordan, where she previously freelanced, and report on stories in Syria and Lebanon where meaningful reporting might reverse a trend in which "globalization is driving the Arab world and United States further apart."

◆
JACOB ADELMAN
University of California at Berkeley
Graduate School of Journalism
and Asian Studies
H.L. STEVENSON SCHOLARSHIP

*Sponsored by donations from family
and friends.*

*Presented by Bill Holstein,
OPC Foundation president*

Believing that "accurate, exciting journalism demands reporters who know what they're talking about," Jacob intends to use his experience working in Japan and Korea to connect him to stories through-

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SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

(Continued from Page 5)

out the rest of Northeast Asia, from the tradition of sumo wrestling to the ascendant Chinese economy. In his essay, the University of Massachusetts-Amherst graduate described how Japan was revising its educational policy so graduates of low-achieving academic high schools could find full-time jobs.

MARIA AHMED

Columbia University

Graduate School of Journalism

STAN SWINTON SCHOLARSHIP

*Endowed and presented by his wife,
Helen Swinton*

London-born and Oxford-educated, Maria would like to study the native languages of Pakistan, the country of her ancestry, to "interview the minorities who retreated to the shadows—Christians, Ahmadis, Parsees—as their country became unrecognizable." Maria wrote about Lebanese Christian teenagers making a pilgrimage to the Basilica of the Blessed Virgin in the village of Harissa.

MARINA WALKER GUEVARA

University of Missouri Graduate School
of Journalism

EMANUEL R. FREEDMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed by family.

Presented by his son, Eric Freedman

Because she believes a "well reported, documented and written story can raise awareness, mobilize consciousness and affect policy," Marina is focused on the environmental and health threats posed by powerful Western companies in impoverished areas torn between economic survival and quality of life. An Argentine, she writes compellingly of the problem of lead poisoning, especially among children, in La Oroya, Peru, where the town's leading employer is also America's largest lead producer.

CHRISTINA HILDRETH

University of Michigan

THEO WILSON SCHOLARSHIP

*Sponsored by donations from family
and friends. Presented by*

Theo's friend, George Burns

Christina wrote movingly of the largely unreported story of Haiti's drinking water crisis, its impact on this impoverished nation, and how a little girl named Maudlin taught her how it felt to be thirsty. The University of Michigan undergraduate wrote that if Americans

knew more about the world outside their borders and understood the complexity of global issues it would lead to "a more defined path by which to solve them. Accurate and powerful reporting is crucial if we aim to effect change."

CHARLES HACK

New York University

Graduate School of Journalism

ROY ROWAN SCHOLARSHIP

*Endowed by family, friends and
admirers. Presented by Roy Rowan*

Charles is fascinated by the small state of Nagaland, tucked in the northeast corner of India. The Great Britain native with a degree from City College of San Francisco plans to tell the story of the Naga people, who have been embroiled in an insurgency since the country gained independence from colonial Britain in 1963. He believes the obscure Indian state with a funny name that caught his imagination will captivate others too.

MATTHEW FLEISCHER

New York University

Graduate School of Journalism

DAN ELDON SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by family and friends.

Presented by family friend, Chad Ruble

Convinced since his first family trip to Tanzania that travel journalism "can

inspire compassion and understanding of a foreign and possibly hostile culture," Matthew wrote about how a bike trip from Jerusalem to Bethlehem and a stop at a refugee camp on the way caused him to question his previous assumptions about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. The Tulane graduate intends to go to Afghanistan next to report on the impact of humanitarian efforts.

MALGORZATA WOZNIAKA

Graduate School of Journalism

at University of California at Berkeley

FLORA LEWIS SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by her family and friends.

Presented by Jacqueline Albert-Simon

Born in Poland, raised in France, and a graduate of Boston University, Malgorzata knows a lot about what captivates her most: stories about change. In her essay, she wrote how Soviet-style repression still dominates the political landscape in Belarus, a nation whose location between Russia and the EU mirrors its allegiance to Moscow and its craving for democracy and a liberal market economy. Next, she intends to cover the impact of a violent 15-year separatist movement on the youth of Kashmir, the Himalayan mountain kingdom torn between India, Pakistan, and China.

Letter: Americans Need To Travel

On November 9th the OPC sponsored a talk by Professor David Mindich about his book "Tuned Out: Why Americans Under 40 Don't Follow the News," which was covered by C-Span's Book-TV. The OPC received these comments from Darlene House, a Canadian living in the U.S.:

I'd like to suggest to your speaker (David Mindich) that more Americans would "care" about world news if they spent more time traveling the world. Traveling to other parts of the world is a real eye-opener. It often makes you appreciate your life in the USA. But spend enough time in other countries, talking to people and seeing how they live, and you often begin to question some of those "things American." And that's healthy too.

So, my first point is: I don't think you'll encourage more young Americans to take an interest in the news by introducing "civics courses." What

they need is a year of travel abroad.

Secondly, I'd like to see news programs that give people a bigger, more complete picture of the world. For example, the day US troops pulled down the statue of Saddam Hussein, CNN showed the footage, repeatedly. However, CNN's international feed also showed reaction in the Arab world to the toppling of the statue. I think Americans should have seen that footage too. Why show Americans only what the media here thinks viewers want to see?

I'd also like to recommend to your guest speaker that he keep an eye on the media in Canada—specifically the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation—for in-depth documentaries, town hall discussions, lively debates and plenty of background information in a one-hour news package that gives you a real sense of what's happening in the world and why.

Crossroads: Topping's Novel Tracks America's Entanglement in Vietnam

By Charles Hack

Walter Cronkite joined other veteran Vietnam journalists and China hands gathered at Club Quarters on Jan. 20 to hear Seymour Topping, the legendary former managing editor of *The New York Times*, explain how his new novel, "Fatal Crossroads, A Novel of Vietnam 1945," provides insight into American involvement in Iraq today.

"Let me take you back to a time when there were no American reporters in Vietnam," Topping said to begin his talk, recalling the AP assignment that took him from Hong Kong to Saigon.

The day in 1950 when the newlywed Topping arrived at the Hotel Continental in Saigon with his bride, Audrey Topping, a massive bomb ripped apart a sidewalk cafe in the same square where he was staying, killing French soldiers and sailors. He had just witnessed a byproduct of the Viet Minh's tenacious terror campaign near the start of the French Indochina War. As we now know, these were the early events that would later draw the United States into the most disastrous foreign entanglement in its history.

"I wanted to bring the strands together in human terms—to picture the sacrifices, passions and strangely divided loyalties of the actors in the drama—so I turned to the novel form," Topping said.

Topping was present to witness the aftermath of the American policy miscues that transformed Ho Chi Minh, the charismatic anti-colonial resistance leader, from American ally into a determined foe. As World War II drew to an end, President Harry Truman pondered whether to support a return of Vietnam to French colonial rule, or, as his predecessor Franklin Roosevelt preferred, to set the country on a path for eventual independence. Charles De Gaulle demanded the former, and under pressure from Winston Churchill, who had his own colonial interests, and the State Department, which was eager to resurrect French power in the post-war vacuum, Truman abandoned FDR's idea.

Ho Chi Minh, whose fight for an independent Vietnam had already routed the Japanese, felt betrayed, and so began his campaign against the French and later the United States.

Topping charts the metamorphosis in



From left: Audrey Topping, Shirley Rosenthal, Abe Rosenthal, Seymour Topping, Betsy Cronkite, Walter Cronkite.

Ho, whom he says had been willing to work with the United States. Ho appeared ready to sever ties with China and Russia and side with America. Instead, he "cried out, 'we've been abandoned,'" and turned to the communists for weapons, Topping said.

"What happened to our friendship with Ho Chi Minh? What happened to a relationship that if developed within the framework of the Roosevelt vision might have spared us the agony of our Vietnam War?" Topping asked. "That transition from friend to foe gets only the barest mention in official American military annals."

Topping pointed out many parallels between America's involvement in Vietnam and the current situation in Iraq.

In Vietnam, Truman moved ahead with American foreign policy before fully understanding the people, Topping said, charging that President Bush launched the American invasion with similarly unrealistic expectations. The assassinations we now see in Iraq are like those in Vietnam in 1945 of Vietnamese allied to the French, Topping noted.

"As in Vietnam, despite our commitment to democracy and reconstruction, the opposition of the Iraqis to any foreign military presence in their country will grow, whether it is American, British or United Nations," Topping said, adding that any Iraqi government seen to be cooperating with foreign powers will be targeted.

"The lessons of Vietnam are unmistak-

able," Topping said. "They were forgotten before the plunge into Iraq. We should take account of them in the future if the United States should stand once more at a fatal crossroads contemplating foreign intervention whether it chances to be Syria, Iran or North Korea."

The Stanley Foundation Reporting Project Grants

The Stanley Foundation Reporting Project will provide assistance for print or broadcast journalists interested in reporting on multilateral efforts to improve global security.

The project will provide journalists with travel and research support to complete a specific project of their choice for publication or broadcast. A total of \$20,000 in awards is available during the spring 2005 round. To be eligible, journalists must be U.S. citizens and/or work for a U.S. accredited news organization. March 22, 2005, is the application deadline. For more information and full application instructions, contact Keith Porter, Director of Communication and Outreach, The Stanley Foundation, (563) 264-1500, kporter@stanleyfoundation.org.



PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

GREENWICH, Connecticut: Isabelle Reckeweg

Clary, formerly with UPI in Jakarta and Reuters in her native Paris, joined Interactive Brokers, a Greenwich brokerage firm, last year as its communications director after working for *Securities Industry News* in New York City.

HARARE: Angus Shaw of AP, Brian Latham of Bloomberg Financial News and Jaan Raath of *The Times* of London left Zimbabwe in February, and Cornelius Nduna, a freelancer for several foreign news organization, went into hiding after police and intelligence agents searched their offices and threatened to arrest them for espionage and slandering the state. Shaw told *The New York Times* the actions appeared to be part of a campaign to suppress international coverage of events in Zimbabwe before national parliamentary elections March 31. The four journalists are Zimbabwe citizens.

KATMANDU: King Gyanendra suspended civil liberties in February, including a free press, ending Nepal's 15 years of democracy. In a TV address, he said he was taking power for himself for three years because the country's political parties had failed to hold parliamentary elections or bring Maoist rebels to peace talks. Soldiers sent to news offices to serve as censors were pulled back because editors "assured us there would be self-censorship," Brigadier General Dipak K. Gurung, spokesman for the Royal Nepal Army, told Amy Waldman of *The New York Times*.

LONDON: Martyn Bond, a London Press Club director, praised OPC members in reporting last fall's visit to New York by a delegation from the European Federation of Press Clubs (January *Bulletin*). In *PressNews*, the LPC's journal, Bond wrote that Sonya Fry and her colleagues "generously laid on an informative programme of visits and briefings." Membership in the London Press Club now totals more than 540 individual members, three times its 2001 membership, plus ten corporate members. Last year the club opened a website at www.londonpressclub.co.uk.

Reuters net profit rose to £352 million (about U.S.\$464 million) last year from £50 million a year earlier, partly as a result of Chief Executive Tom Glocer's cost cutting and trimming 1,300 products to just 50 by next year.

LOS ANGELES: Bernard Weinraub reported for *The New York Times* from Vietnam, Northern Island, the White House and India before the paper sent him to Hollywood in 1991. In his final *Times* article from Los Angeles before retiring from the paper in January, Weinraub wrote about journalist salaries and conflict of interest. Arriving in Hollywood from India, he wrote, "I was struck almost immediately by the prevalence of money, and the crazy economic gap between journalists and the people they cover.... Journalists in Washington do not feel diminished by their lower salaries. In Hollywood many do. I did."

Weinraub faced a challenge after marrying studio executive Amy Pascal in 1997. Amy was president of Turner Pictures when they started dating. When they married the next year, she had been appointed chairman of Columbia Pictures. Now she's chairwoman of Sony Pictures. To avoid conflict of interest, Weinraub left coverage of his wife's companies to a colleague "with the agreement of my editors, who were confident I could deal with the issue," he wrote. "But I underestimated how closely I would be watched, or how quickly Hollywood would jump on my marriage as way to get an edge in coverage by *The New York Times*." Warner Brothers complained about Weinraub's reports on a string of Warner movie flops. *Brill's Content* magazine said Warner offered Weinraub's wife a production deal instead of "the high-ranking job she sought." Michael Ovitz, chairman of Creative Artists Agency, complained to *The Times* about Weinraub's coverage and tried to get him fired because of his marriage.

In 1999 Weinraub had lunch with Joseph Lelyveld, then *Times* executive

editor. "I began our lunch by saying that I wanted off the movie beat," Weinraub wrote. "Not because I was tired of it, but because it was being used as an excuse to attack me and the newspaper I loved. Mr. Lelyveld was visibly relieved. I had saved him from saying it was difficult for the newspaper. I asked about covering television and other entertainment. He agreed."



Colligan cartoons

In June, OPC Member James P. Colligan will mark his 50th anniversary as a Roman Catholic priest. After his ordination in the Maryknoll order in 1955, Jim was sent to Japan for language study and 10 years as a parish priest in Tokyo, Kyoto and Sapporo. After earning a master's degree in journalism at Syracuse University, he returned to Japan in 1968 as a correspondent for Catholic News Service. He reported from Asia until assigned back in the United States in 1997. Jim contributed articles, cartoons and photos to *No. 1 Shimibun*, the monthly publication of the Foreign Correspondents' Club in Tokyo that made him a life member in 1994, an honor usually reserved for ex-presidents. Now Father Colligan celebrates masses in English and Japanese at Saint Francis Xavier Church in Los Angeles. He addresses letters to foreign correspondent friends around the world in hand-drawn calligraphy.

ALBERT & DIANA KAFF

Colligan calligraphy

MELVILLE, New York: James Rupert was named manager of *Newsday's* new bureau in Islamabad in January after serving as the newspaper's deputy foreign editor. Rupert has reported from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq and the Middle East for *Newsday* and earlier from South Asia, the former

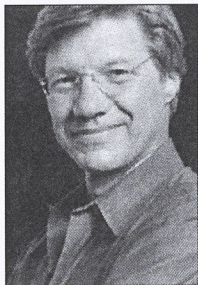
Soviet Union and West Africa for *The Washington Post*.

Other recent changes at *Newsday*: OPC member **Lonnie Isabel** promoted from assistant managing editor to deputy managing editor; **Roy Gutman**, who won a 1993 Pulitzer Prize for reports on Serb-run concentration camps in Bosnia-Herzegovina, appointed foreign editor succeeding **Dele Olojede**, who took a buyout and moved to Africa to continue reporting; **Ed Gargan**, Beijing bureau chief, to Harvard University on a Neiman Fellowship; and former *Newsday* editor **Howard Schneider** to Stony Brook University to teach the ethics and values of the press as a visiting professor and lead a study on whether the New York State university should start a journalism program.

MOGADISHU: Kate Peyton, a BBC producer, was shot to death in February outside the Sahafi Hotel. Peyton, 39, had just arrived in Mogadishu from South Africa, where she was based, to report on the peace process in Somalia. A gunman approached her at the hotel's front gate and fired one bullet at her.

NEW YORK: Martin Patience, who won the OPC Foundation's 2004 Dan Eldon Scholarship with an essay on the Ma'aza Bedouins in Egypt, has been studying Arabic in Syria and in April hopes to start work as a newspaper correspondent in the Middle East. "Learning Arabic is like running up Everest," he commented in an e-mail to the Club from Damascus.

OPC member **Rik Kirkland** will step down as managing editor of *Fortune* on April 1 to devote himself to writing. Succeeding him will be **Eric Pooley**, London-based managing editor of *Time*'s European and African editions. Kirkland, 53, served as *Fortune*'s deputy managing editor for six years before assuming the magazine's top job four years ago. Pooley, 45, joined *Time* in 1995, covered the White House, and was the magazine's chief political correspondent and later editor of its Nation section before moving to London.



Rik Kirkland

Announced in February by the Long Island University, winners of the 2004 George Polk Award included three for foreign reporting: **Seymour M. Hersh** for his accounts in *The New Yorker* of prisoner abuse in Abu Ghraib prison; **Dexter Filkins** of *The New York Times* for his dispatches on attacks against Iraqi insurgents in Falluja; and **Paisley Dodds** of the AP for her reports on the overthrow of Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The awards will be presented April 21 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.



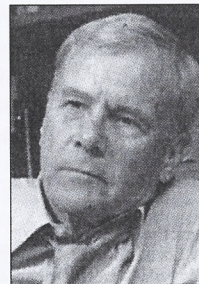
Christiane Amanpour



Marjorie Scardino

Two women in international news are among this year's winners of the 35th annual Matrix Awards presented by New York Women in Communications: **Christiane Amanpour**, CNN's chief international correspondent, and **Marjorie Scardino**, CEO of London-based Pearson PLC, corporate parent of *The Financial Times* and 50 percent owner of *The Economist*. The awards will be presented April 11 at a luncheon in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

OPC member **Tom Brokaw**, the former "NBC Nightly News" anchor and managing editor, has signed a deal to write two more books for Random House. Brokaw, who turned 65 in February, wrote about the World War II generation in his 1998 book "The Greatest Generation." That was followed by "The Greatest Generation Speaks" in 1999, "An Album of Memories" in 2001 and "A Long Way From Home" in 2002. A Random House spokesman said it's "too early to say" what his new books will be about. More than five million copies of Brokaw's books are in print.



Tom Brokaw

Two of the three CBS journalists who were asked to resign in January for help-

ing oversee a flawed report on President Bush's National Guard service submitted their resignations in late February: **Mary Murphy**, senior producer of the Wednesday edition of "60 Minutes," and **Betsy West**, a CBS News senior vice president. They and **Josh Howard**, executive producer of Wednesday's of "60 Minutes," were relieved of their duties Jan. 10, the day CBS chairman **Leslie Moonves** requested their resignations (February *Bulletin*).

SAVANNAH, Georgia: Frank Tremaine, former UPI senior vice president, and wife Kay, both 90, have moved into a retirement community. On Sunday morning, Dec. 7, 1941, Frank, then United Press Honolulu bureau manager, heard explosions outside his apartment building. Undressed, he rushed to a window and witnessed Japanese warplanes bombing Pearl Harbor. He dictated his eyewitness report to New York while the attack was underway.

TOKYO: Katsuji Ebisawa, 70, president of NHK, Japan's public broadcasting network, resigned in January following a series of embezzlement scandals in which one person was arrested on fraud charges and 12 others disciplined. The network also came under fire from top politicians who allegedly pressured NHK to censor a program about the use of Korean, Chinese and Indonesian sex slaves by Japanese troops during World War II.

WARSAW: Jerzy Urban, 71, founder and publisher of the weekly magazine *NIE* (Polish for "no"), was found guilty in January of insulting Pope John Paul II and fined \$6,500. The court ruled that before the Polish-born Pope's 2002 visit to Poland, Urban published an article that made fun of John Paul's age and frailty.

WASHINGTON: A three-judge federal appeals court panel ruled unanimously in February that *New York Times* reporter **Judith Miller** and *Time* reporter **Matthew Cooper** should go to jail for refusing to name their sources to a grand jury investigating the disclosure of the identity of a covert CIA officer (December *Bulletin*). The panel held that the First Amendment does not give reporters the right to refuse to cooperate with grand juries investigating such

(Continued on Page 10)

PEOPLE

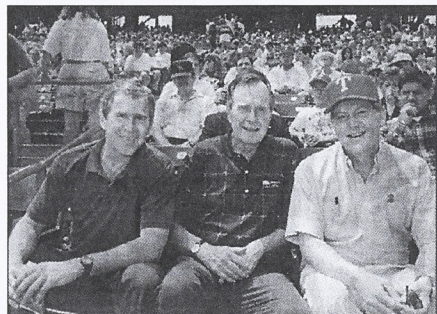
(Continued from Page 9)



Judith Miller and Matthew Cooper

crimes. Their lawyers said they will appeal to the full U.S. Court for Appeals for the District of Columbia, and, if that fails, to the Supreme Court, steps that could take weeks or months. Miller, 57, and Cooper, 42, remain free during the appeal process.

◆
Bob Schieffer, CBS News Washington bureau chief, expects no conflict in his reporting when his brother **Tom Schieffer** becomes ambassador to Japan. "He's going to be the worst source I ever had!" Bob told *The New York Times*. "I don't talk to Tom about **Dan Rather**. Tom doesn't talk to me about George Bush." Tom, newly appointed to Tokyo from his post as ambassador to Australia, and Bush were business partners in the Texas Rangers baseball team.



Left to right: President Bush, former President Bush and Tom Schieffer.

◆
Chinese journalist Yu Ning of *Caijing* magazine in Beijing will receive the 2005 International Women's Media Foundation fellowship for international women journalists. The fellowship provides international journalists with the opportunity for hands-on experience in U.S. media houses, allowing them to build practical journalism skills to take back to their countries.

Yu will be in the United States for the four-month fellowship from March-June 2005 and will be hosted by the *San Francisco Chronicle*. A financial reporter, Yu

will be assigned to the newspaper's business section.

Yu has been a senior financial reporter at *Caijing* since 2001. She has covered the ups and downs of China's financial markets, including many of the financial scandals that have had a profound impact on the country's economy and society.

NOTA BENE: The February *OPC Bulletin* said the Japanese word *tsunami* (*tsu* harbor, *nami* waves) first appeared in the English language between 1905-1910. But **William Safire** wrote in *The New York Times Magazine* that **Lafcadio Hearn**, the Irish-American writer who lived for many years in Japan and became a Japanese citizen, wrote in 1897: "'Tsunami!' shrieked the people; and then all shrieks and all sounds and all power to hear sounds were annihilated by a nameless shock...as the colossal swell smote the shore with a weight that sent a shudder through the hills."

WEDDINGS

Brian Bennett met and started dating **Anne Tsai** in 2000 in Hong Kong, where he was a *Time* correspondent and she was an investment banking analyst for Morgan Stanley. They left Hong Kong in 2001, Brian to Pakistan and Afghanistan for *Time* and Anne to Washington to monitor the Uighurs for a Congressional commission on human rights in China. They kept in touch by phone and e-mail. Brian told Anne that when he tugged his right ear or put his hand over his heart while being interviewed on TV, it was his hello to her. Bennett, 28, now a *Time* correspondent in Washington, and Tsai, 26, now in Washington with the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, a nonprofit organization that promotes democracy around the world, were married Feb. 19 by an Episcopal priest at the Balboa Bay Club in Newport Beach, California.



Brian Bennett and Anne Tsai

◆
Sarah Robbins, 30, a BBC television news producer, and **Nathan Thompson**, 35, a news producer for National Public



Sarah Robbins and Nathan Thompson

Radio, were married Feb. 12 at Posada de Las Flores, a seaside resort in La Paz, Baja California. They are based in Washington, D.C.

◆
David Troath, former UPI communications manager in Asia and the Pacific, and **Toni Cavalenes**, a New York City mental health counselor, were married last June 12 on the lawn at Monteverde Restaurant overlooking the Hudson River at Cortlandt Manor, New York. Troath, Australian by birth, is a technology consultant on security and other systems, and he divides his work between New York and Sydney.

IN MEMORY

Journalist and author **Hunter S. Thompson** achieved early success reporting from South America for *The National Observer*. But he made his mark, *The New York Times* wrote, as a practitioner of New Journalism who "reached out in his writing to a generation made cynical by the Vietnam War and the Watergate political scandal.... Mr. Thompson made journalism seem like a dangerous, fantastic occupation." The AP wrote that Thompson, author of about a dozen books, "never seemed to care whom he offended, especially if they were politicians." Thompson shot and killed himself Feb. 20 at his home in Woody Creek, Colorado, at age 67.

◆
Christopher Marquis, 43, a newspaper reporter specializing in Latin America, died Feb. 11 in San Francisco, where he was staying at the home of his brother Matthew, who said AIDS was the cause of death. Christopher was on leave from the Washington bureau of *The New York Times* to work on his second novel. He joined *The Times* in 2000 from the Washington bureau of Knight-Ridder Newspapers, where he was chief foreign affairs writer. Before that, he was a *Miami Herald* foreign correspondent, focusing on Cuba and Central America. Marquis first novel, "A Hole in the Heart" [New York: St.

Martin's, 2003], was about a school teacher in Alaska.

◆
George Herman joined CBS in 1944 as a radio news writer. His first appearance on the air came in 1945 when he interrupted a musical broadcast to announce Japan's World War II surrender. Traveling to Asia in 1949 with a movie camera and a tape recorder, George became the first person to send sound and television reports from abroad to CBS. He covered the Korean War as CBS Far East bureau chief. He landed with U.N.



**George Herman
in 1974**

troops at Inchon in General Douglas MacArthur's maneuver to cut off North Korean forces from their rear. After the war, CBS assigned Herman to cover the White House, where he met **Patricia Kerwin**, who worked in the press office. They were married in 1955. Herman reported from Washington for the remainder of his 43 years with CBS including nearly 15 years as moderator of the network's "Face the Nation" program.

Herman, 85, an OPC member in the 1980s and first vice president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club in Tokyo in 1953-1954, died from cancer and heart problems Feb. 8 in a Washington hospital. His wife and their three sons survive. George and past OPC President **Roy Rowan** knew each other since they were members of Dartmouth College's class of 1941. Herman majored in mathematics and won a prize for creative writing. **Douglas Martin** of *The New York Times* wrote: "When Mr. Herman was laid off by CBS in a cost-cutting move in 1986, the network offered him a chance to resign. Always a strong union leader, he replied: 'Put me down as one of the fired,' *The Washington Post* reported."

◆
Leo Meidlinger, 61, a Washington-based senior producer for ABC News, died of cancer Jan. 28 at a Washington hospital. His assignments took him to Russia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Belgrade and Somalia, and he was in the Middle East during the Persian Gulf War.

◆
David Bacon Richardson, 88, a former magazine foreign correspondent, died in his Washington, D.C. home of prostrate cancer on Jan. 25. After World

War II, he was a *Time-Life* correspondent in India, Germany, Great Britain, Mexico and the Middle East. In 1956, he became an associate editor of *U.S. News*, reporting for the magazine from South America, Washington and Rome until retiring in 1982. During World War II, Richardson, a U.S. Army technical sergeant, wrote for *Yank*, the GI magazine, covering ten battles in New Guinea, the Southwest Pacific and the China-Burma theaters.

◆
Paul Good, 75, an ABC News bureau chief in Latin America in the 1960s, died of a stroke Jan. 23 in Greenwich, Connecticut. After his overseas assignment, Good became the network's Atlanta bureau chief. He left ABC in 1964 to focus on coverage of the civil rights movement. His work was published in *The Nation*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times Magazine* and elsewhere. From 1981-1991 he was head of the journalism and public relations department at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

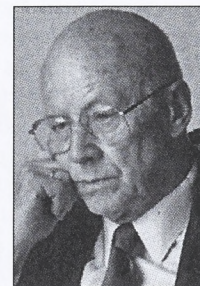
◆
John L. Hess, 87, a former *New York Times* correspondent in Paris, noted for writing cranky opinions on everything from food to France to the First Amendment, died of pneumonia Jan. 21 in a New York City hospital. Hess reported from Paris from 1964-1972 and edited a Paris-edition of *The Times*. He and his wife, **Karen Hess**, a culinary historian who survives, started their 1977 book, "The Taste of America," with these words: "How shall we tell our fellow Americans that our palates have been ravaged, that our food is awful, and that our most respected authorities on cooking are poseurs?" It was one of the book's "efforts to deflate the eminent food writers **Julia Child** and **Craig Claiborne**," **Douglas Martin** wrote in *The New York Times* obit. Before joining *The Times* financial copy desk in 1954, Hess worked for UP, AP, the *New York Daily News* and the *New York Post*.



John L. Hess

◆
Jan Nowak-Jezioranski, 91, former chief of the Polish section of Radio Free Europe, died Jan. 20 in a Warsaw hospital after a long illness. After serving in the

Polish underground during World War II, he worked for the BBC in London before heading Radio Free Europe's Polish broadcasts for 20 years during the Cold War. After retiring in 1976, Nowak-Jezioranski moved to Washington, where he remained active in Polish affairs. He received the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1996 for promoting democracy around the world.



**Jan Nowak-
Jezioranski**

◆
Kirpal Singh, 83, a Sikh journalist and linguist who founded the Sikh newspaper *Khalsa* in Punjab and Delhi, died Jan. 16 of a collapsed lung and a stroke at his home in Fairfax, Virginia. From 1959-1979, Singh worked in the USIA's language section in New Delhi. He immigrated to the United States in 1985 and settled in northern Virginia.

◆
Howard Rausch, 76, McGraw Hill's Moscow bureau chief from 1965-1968, died of melanoma cancer Jan. 13 in a Washington, D.C. hospice. *The Washington Post* wrote that Rausch, a champion chess player, won several tournaments while representing the OPC. A specialist in information technology, he worked for the *Philadelphia Bulletin*, *Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times* in addition to McGraw Hill. In 1983, he founded, edited and published *Lightwave*, a magazine dealing with optical communications.

◆
Doris C. O'Neil, 88, spent all her long career with *Life* in New York City.



Doris C. O'Neil with her file system.

(Continued on Page 12)

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 11)

"But photographers all over the world knew her," said former OPC president **Roy Rowan**, another *Life* veteran. During 22 years as chief of the magazine's picture collection, O'Neil invented a cross-reference index of *Life's* 18 million photographs from virtually every country in the world. She joined *Life* in 1948, spent 30 years in the magazine's picture department and then became its director and curator of vintage prints, retiring in 1998. Doris's interest in photographs started when she was a child in Rhode Island and came down with scarlet fever. Forced to stay home, she cut pictures from magazines and organized them by subject, an idea she got from her second grade teacher's photo collection. O'Neil died in a Southampton, New York, care center in January.

◆
William S. Frank, 82, a U.S. Marine combat correspondent during World War II, died of congestive heart failure Dec. 28 at a hospital near his Silver Spring, Maryland, home. After graduating from high school, Frank worked his way up from copy boy to reporter at the *Washington Times-Herald* before serving as a Marine correspondent in the Pacific including the Guadalcanal battle. He worked briefly for the U.S. Veterans Administration after the war and then spent about 30 years as a public relations consultant.

◆
Brian McConnell, 76, a British newsman who helped foil an attempt to kidnap Princess Anne, died late last year. The Princess and her then husband, Captain Mark Phillips, were being driven down London's Mall on March 20, 1974, when an assailant rammed his car into the royal couple's limousine, jumped out and thrust a gun through the window. He was attempting to kidnap Anne and demand a £3 million ransom. McConnell, who was in a taxi ahead of the limousine, leaped out and confronted the gunman, saying: "You can't do that. These are my friends. Don't be silly. Just give me your gun." Before he was overcome by police, the gunman shot McConnell in the chest. For his action, he was awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal. McConnell spent most of his 60 years on Fleet Street with the *Daily Mirror* as crime reporter, Old Bailey correspondent and editor of the "Live Letters" column.

YANK AT 60

(Continued from Page 2)

The best propaganda is truth so *Yank* in its reports of combat was unsparing in describing the horrors. No soldier doubted them but airing them in print reassured the readers that they were reading the reality of the common plight.

To get its start, *Yank* picked up staffers wherever it could find them. Newt Oliphant, a songwriter, was taken on as a sergeant war correspondent. As time went by, better prepared candidates were found. *Yank* has its equal share of dead and wounded but its extraordinary freedoms and its opportunity for professional writers, artists, cartoonists, cameramen and editors to pursue their peacetime professions became so evident that by 1945, 6,000 sergeants, corporals and privates were standing in line offering to be busted to buck private if they could only join the staff. *Yank's* table of organization was too small, however. The often brilliantly prepared applicants were turned away.

Starting with a score of staffers in the Bartholomew Building in East 42nd Street in Manhattan, *Yank* ended with 21 printing plants in 17 countries and a readership of every fifth person in uniform. Despite its impact during the war, however, some staffers now at the Pentagon have never heard of it and, even during World War II, most

Americans were unaware of it because sale was limited to those in service. The politically aware War Department, as publisher, did not want to compete with commercial magazines.

After the war many staffers had bright careers, continuing to hone skills sharpened at *Yank*. Andy Rooney, a *Yank* contributor, is CBS television's resident curmudgeon. Ralph Martin published best-selling biographies. Walter Bernstein and Marion Hargrove wrote movie scripts in Hollywood. Bill Mauldin, an early contributor to *Yank*, became a Pulitzer Prize winner. Artists such as Robert Greenhalgh, Joseph Stefanelli and Art Weithas had exhibitions of their *Yank* work. Howard Brodie became a dean of TV courtroom sketch artists.

Yank can have no successor. As a supplier of instant information, live battlefield coverage by television cannot be matched. In an age of nuclear weapons, a long conflict between major powers cannot be conceived and only in such a vast mobilization would there be a talent pool and an audience such as *Yank* had.

Barrett McGurn, president of the OPC from 1963 to 1965, was the South Pacific combat correspondent for Yank, wounded on Bougainville. He is the author of "Yank, the Army Weekly, Reporting the Greatest Generation," published by Fulcrum in Golden, Colorado.

OPC Awards Update

Award entries have been processed through the OPC office. This year's yield was 496 entries which is not the all time high, but is the second best. Last year topped out at 545.

Interestingly enough, print—newspapers and books—were among the largest categories. In an era that supposedly is the demise of print, the large number of entries was reassuring.

Former President Alexis Gelber organized 21 judging panels which are now reading, viewing, listening and selecting the winners.

Dateline magazine, under the editorship of OPC Vice President Michael Serrill, is underway with *Newsweek* magazine taking the lead in producing the magazine for the OPC this year.

All of these efforts will culminate in the OPC Annual Awards Dinner to be held on Wednesday, April 27 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel. Cocktail reception begins at 6:00pm with the dinner starting at 7:00pm. As in years past, the dinner begins with the Candlelighting Ceremony in honor of journalists killed in the line of duty during the year 2004. The highlights are the President's Award and of course, the award winners themselves. It is the biggest event of the OPC social season and we invite members to participate and to urge their respective organizations to buy tables in support of the work of the OPC. So save the date, dry clean your tux or go shopping for something new, but don't miss it.

—Sonya K. Fry

Mort Rosenblum Finds the Ultimate Chocolate



Two chocolate-loving friends join Mort and Jeanette Rosenblum at the OPC.

By Charles Hack

Inviting guests to taste the sweet results of a three-year search to find the best chocolate in the world, OPC member Mort Rosenblum told his audience at Club Quarters on Feb. 8 that the small squares of Jacques Genin chocolate laid out on the tables did not come from Belgium, Switzerland, or even the West Coast. They were products of France.

"If you strand me on a dessert island anytime soon, make my chocolate French," said Rosenblum. His new book, "Chocolate: A Bittersweet Saga of Dark and Light," traces chocolate's history from the pre-Hispanic cocoa drink to the modern confectionary.

Scouring the back streets of Brussels and Paris, Rosenblum found the winning chocolate down a dingy alley near a low-rent government office building that looked like a bankrupt tire factory.

"The door opened only a few inches, and I knew that this was the place; the first whiff of warm fresh chocolate nearly lifted me off the ground," said the former AP correspondent and former editor of the *International Herald-Tribune*, who also wrote the award-winning "Olives" and the "Goose from Toulouse."

Using adjectives borrowed from the lexicon of wine tasting, Rosenblum described his discovery: As the delicate exterior cracked, "creamy ganache melted as it settled on my tongue. A subtle but unmistakable [taste] of fresh mint

flooded my mouth. There were peppery undertones that [sent] pinpricked signals to corporal outposts."

For many, Belgium produces superior chocolate, with heavy golden chocolate and fresh creamy fillings. But more recently, French chocolatiers claim the grand prix, using a thin ganache infused with chocolate flavors.

"Good chocolate melts when you stare at it," Rosenblum said.

Many also think that the Swiss make the finest chocolate, and while Rosenblum concedes that Switzerland is perhaps best known for its milky sweet confectionary, it has suffered from its success.

Spoiled by the same mass production that has also brought Hershey's to every Manhattan newsstand, industrialization has merely increased quantity and shelf life. The good stuff, with its creamy ganache, must be eaten while still fresh.

Rosenblum's travels have also taught him how to best savor chocolate. It is best appreciated on its own, early in the morning when the palate is still fresh. By placing a piece on the back of the tongue and by allowing it to dissolve, a connoisseur can identify each distinct flavor.

Rosenblum also warns against combining it with other flavored ingredients as some New York culinary experts have tried, which he says detracts from its great taste.

"If you like chocolate, eat chocolate," he said. And for him, Jacques Genin has achieved the highest art.

A Disconsolate Reporter's Lament

Why Aren't I Famous and Rich?

I've been to hell and back as a newspaper hack
For a boldface byline and a pat on the back.
I've worn out my feet pounding the beat
Ruined my shoes to be first with the news,
Covering murder, mayhem and arson.
A snoop in pursuit of a scoop.

So I switched from newswriting to fiction,
A scribe with a literary predilection
I wrote gothics, whodunits, romances
Potboilers on shady financiers.
True confessions, thrillers, sob stories
And a host of other categories
Like astrology, numerology, gastronomy
Bypassing the shoals of ideology.

My "Letters-to-the Editor" were a virtual mirage
Of tear-jerking tabloid camouflage.
I elevated celebrities to the skies
Ghosting their memoirs with cunning disguise.
I've even chronicled a pug's pedigree
That won a Pulitzer Prize for biography.

No longer a snoop in pursuit of a scoop,
I feel bound to say—with this resume:

Why aren't I famous and rich?

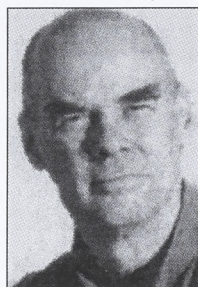
—Elliseva Sayers

COVERING THE COVERAGE

(Continued from Page 3)

January 26

To reduce the chance of insurgent attacks, U.S. military flights to Baghdad from Jordan and Kuwait operate on no schedule. "We're not telling you when the plane will be leaving," a dispatcher on the airport tarmac at Kuwait City shouted to reporters including Mark Mooney, national editor of the *New York Daily News*. "And when you are about to go, don't call a friend in Baghdad to tell them you are leaving so they can pick you up. We have enemies and spies are listening."



Mark Mooney

January 28

An 80-minute, pro-Palestinian documentary film opened at a Greenwich Village theater in New York City with the argument that Israeli leaders should be prosecuted in the court of American public opinion. Ned Martel wrote in *The New York Times*: "The film, 'Peace, Propaganda and the Promised Land: The U.S. Media and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict,' makes a relentless case against what it sees as bigoted, brutal Israeli soldiers who demand papers and permits from Palestinians who are merely trying to live ordinary lives....The film also finds fault with American broadcast networks for, it says, minimizing protests against such actions and, in effect, condoning increased violence." The film quotes Robert Jensen, a University of Texas journalism professor: "In addition to the military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, Israel is also involved in



A scene from "Peace, Propaganda and the Promised Land."

an attempt to ideologically occupy the American media." The documentary was written and directed by Sut Jhally, a University of Massachusetts professor of communications, and Bathsheba Ratzkoff, a 1999 woman graduate of that university.

January 29

Criticized by U.S. officials as inflammatory, misleading and occasionally false, especially on Iraq, Al Jazeera, the Qatar-based TV network, is up for sale. A senior Qatari official was quoted in *The New York Times*: "We have recently added new members to the Al Jazeera editorial board, and one of their tasks is to explore the best way to sell it. We really have a headache, not just from the United States, but from advertisers and from other countries as well." Although Al Jazeera's audience of 30 to 50 million puts it well ahead of its competitors, the network is not profitable and relies on a subsidy from Qatar's government.

January 31

The New York Times headline: "The Arab Media Decide to Focus Coverage on the Voting, Not the Violence." After the Iraqi election, *Times* correspondent Hassan M. Fattah wrote from Amman, Jordan: "Often criticized for glorifying Iraqi violence if not inciting it, Arab news channels appeared to take particular care in their election day reporting....Far from the almost nightly barrage of blood and tears, Al Arabiya and Al Jazeera, the kings of Arab news, on Sunday barely showed the aftermath of insurgent attacks."

February 4

Italian journalist Giuliana Sgrena, 56, was kidnapped near the University of Baghdad when her car was cut off by a vehicle filled with armed men. She was forced into their vehicle that drove away while her abductors exchanged gunfire with security officers. Sgrena, a Middle East specialist who had been in Baghdad less than two weeks, is a correspondent for the leftist newspaper *Il Manifesto* of Rome. Two weeks later, a videotape delivered anonymously to AP Television News showed her sobbing and begging the United States and Italy to save her life by withdrawing their troops from Iraq. Italy's conservative government re-



Giuliana Sgrena
in video

sponded by voting 141-112 to continue financing Italy's deployment in Iraq.

February 8

Andy Rooney, of CBS News' "60 Minutes" and an OPC member, writing in his newspaper column: "When the three network anchormen went to Baghdad last week [for the elections], they were forced to stay in safe compounds, isolated from the Iraqi people, and most of what they said on camera was written for them in New York. The joke in network newsrooms was that before going on the air from Iraq the anchor would call the writers in New York and ask, 'What's it like over here?'"

February 9

Gunmen shot and killed Abdul-Hussein Khazal al-Basri, 40, a correspondent for the U.S. government-financed Al Hurra TV network, and his son Karrar in front of their home in Basra, southern Iraq.

February 11

Eason Jordan, CNN's executive vice president and chief news executive, resigned after he made remarks interpreted by some listeners as suggesting that U.S. troops in Iraq deliberately shot journalists, killing some. David Gergen, editor at large for *U.S. News & World Report*, told *The New York Times* that Jordan spoke of soldiers on "both sides" in Iraq who he believed had been "targeting" journalists. Jordan's comments were made Jan. 27 at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. In a statement issued later, Jordan, 44, said, "I never meant to imply U.S. forces acted with ill intent when U.S. forces accidentally killed journalists," adding he "decided to resign in an effort to prevent CNN from being unfairly tarnished by the controversy over conflicting accounts of my recent remarks regarding the alarming number of journalists killed in Iraq."

The Committee to Protect Journalists said 54 journalists were killed in Iraq in 2003 and 2004, including at least nine who died from American gunfire.

February 20

An employee of the government-backed Iraqi Media Network was kidnapped in Mosul.

February 21

Two Indonesian correspondents in Iraq, reporter Meutya Viada Hafid, 26, and cameraman Budiyanto, 36, and their Jordanian driver were released after they were kidnapped a week earlier in Ramadi.



From left: Mike Wallace and Tom Fenton (CBS), Stuart Witt and Richard Leibner (Biestock Agency), Sandy Socolow and Jeff Bernstein (CBS Producers).

FENTON

(Continued from Page 1)

the world stage, Fenton said there has been a "failure of the news, and especially network news, to broaden our horizons, to open our eyes to the world beyond our shores."

Fenton provided some specific examples. He said that in late 1996, when CBS News had an opportunity to interview Osama Bin Laden, network news execu-

tives refused to greenlight the story.

"They saw him as an Arab of little interest to our viewers," Fenton said.

The result of such myopia, according to Fenton, was that when the September 11 attacks occurred, Americans were totally blindsided, even though there had been a series of smaller attacks around the world during the 1990s and the Hart-Rudman Commission had specifically warned of the danger of an attack on American soil.

Without the context and background to understand what Al Qaeda wanted, Americans simply saw the attacks before September 11 as "disconnected events that seemed to occur without warning."

The wakeup call came on 9/11, according to Fenton, who noted that for a few months, the networks injected money back into news coverage. Unfortunately, that spurt was short lived, and it was soon back to "business as usual."

After years of cutbacks, shuttering foreign bureaus and dumbing down the news, "our industry is vulnerable," Fenton said. "I can't remember a time when the media have been so bombarded, have seemed so out of synch with the public, so out of touch."

The result can be seen in the rise of blogs, Fenton said, which in recent months have helped bring down Dan Rather and CNN's Eason Jordan.

There is a dire need to turn things around, Fenton said. Large swaths of the world, such as Africa, the Caucasus and the Balkans are going largely ignored, while others that are vital to American interests, such as Russia and China, are piteously undercovered.

"The answer to the problem is to get

back to basics," Fenton said. "That's the only way news organizations can restore credibility."

He offered a list of suggestions: Give the public more news, not fluff; stop talking down to the audience; expand the evening news to an hour and run it in prime time; forget expensive big bureaus and think in terms of journalists with small cameras, laptop editing and the ability to send their video reports back by e-mail; hire correspondents for their brains, not their looks.

Fenton argued that such changes could revitalize network news.

"I'm convinced there's a potential audience for real news out there and the first network to go for it could have a real competitive advantage and the public would get the benefit," he said.

Audience members jumped in as soon as Fenton finished speaking, before even a polite round of applause had finished.

Some agreed that a "return to basics" was the only way to reverse the slide in news coverage, while others argued that many people now simply want news that reinforces their preconceived opinions. Some viewed Fenton's list of improvements as wishful thinking.

Fenton stuck to his guns, stating that Americans would tune back in if they were offered real news. Americans must "shame" corporations into offering better news, Fenton asserted. If not, he said, the "mindless race for ratings" can only lead the country into greater danger.

IWMF Call for Nominations

The International Women's Media Foundation is seeking nominations from around the world for its 2005 Courage in Journalism Awards and Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Courage in Journalism Awards—which include a cash prize of \$5,000—honor women journalists who have demonstrated extraordinary strength of character in pursuing their profession under difficult or dangerous circumstances. The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes a woman journalist who has a pioneering spirit and whose determination has paved the way for future generations of women in the media. The awards will be presented at ceremonies in October 2005 in New York City and Los Angeles.

Nominations must be received by March 15, 2005. Further information can be found at <http://www.iwmf.org/courage/nominate.php>.

NEW BOOKS

(Continued from Page 16)

MATT REES, *Time's* Jerusalem bureau chief, argues that Israelis and Palestinians will never feel secure enough to deal with each other constructively until they resolve conflicts within their own communities. In



Matt Rees

"Cain's Field: Faith, Fratricide and Fear in the Middle East" [New York: Free Press], he describes "the truly disturbing betrayals and hatreds within these two communities—between Islamic fundamentalists and Palestinian rulers, between Israeli settlers and peace campaigners, and other ruptures I would never have imagined."

New Books

EUROPE

JOHN FALK went to Sarajevo in 1993 as an accredited radio journalist. But he had never reported, written or recorded a news story in his life, and the *New York Times* commented: "Mr. Falk may have been the most unlikely war correspondent since...the hapless hero of Evelyn Waugh's 'Scoop'....[But Falk] learns how to condense the day's news into a 30-second spot. Before long, he's a real foreign correspondent, selling his reports far and wide." Falk describes his work in "Hello to All That: A Memoir of War, Zolof, and Peace" [New York: Henry Holt]. Since he was 12, Falk had struggled with crippling depression. When he was 23, he went to Sarajevo with a year's supply of Zolof, an anti-depression drug, and the idea that travel to a danger zone might cure him. At first, the war eluded him. He wrote: "All day there were sounds of shooting and explosions, just never around where I was. When I hiked over to where the action seemed to be, it inevitably seemed to move back to where I had just been. It was frustrating. I was a war reporter in the middle of a war, and for the life of me I couldn't find it." But Zolof



John Falk

and Sarajevo saved him from depression, and taught him how to be a reporter.

"AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU is the site of the largest mass murder in human history," publisher PublicAffairs writes in introducing "Auschwitz: A New History" by **Laurence Rees**, BBC's creative director of history programs. Studying more than 100 original interviews with Auschwitz survivors and Nazi perpetrators, the author describes "the inner workings of the camp in unrivalled detail—from the techniques of mass murder, to the politics and gossip mill that turned between guards and prisoner, to the on-camp brothel in which the lines between those guards and prisoners became surprisingly blurred."



Laurence Rees

MIDDLE EAST

FOUR BOOKS from American and British newsmen investigate the treatment of prisoners in Abu Ghraib and Guantánamo and the war against Al Qaeda. **Steven Strasser**, a former *Newsweek* editor, and **Mark Danner**, a contributor to the *New York Review of Books*, "are almost numbingly exhaustive in their cataloging of specific mistakes, incidents and responsibilities" in Abu Ghraib prison, **Andrew Sullivan**, a senior editor at *The New Republic* and a *Time* columnist, wrote in *The New York Times*. Strasser edited "The Abu Ghraib Investi-

gations: The Official Report of the Independent Panel and Pentagon on the Shocking Prisoner Abuse in Iraq" [New York: PublicAffairs]. Danner wrote "Torture and Truth: America, Abu Ghraib and the War on Terror" [New York: New York Review of Books].

Greg Miller, a *Los Angeles Times* correspondent, and **Chris Mackey**, pseudonym of a U.S. Army interrogator, are the authors of "The Interrogators: Inside the Secret War Against Al Qaeda" [New York: Little Brown]. They write that the threat of torture may cause more anxiety among detainees than torture itself, but the threat will carry little weight over time if prisoners know that their jailers probably will not follow through. "Fear is often an interrogator's best ally, but it doesn't have a long shelf life," they write. The authors quote an Al Qaeda manual that advises Muslim prisoners that people in the West don't "have the stomach" for torture "because they are not warriors."

British journalist **David Rose** interviewed prisoners and guards at the U.S. military prison at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, in 2003 and wrote "Guantánamo: The War on Human Rights" [New Press]. In a *New York Times* review, **Michael Newman** commented: "For David Rose, no detail is too small in documenting an outrage so great as Gitmo....The prisoners tell harrowing stories of physical cruelty and pointless humiliations." But there were lighter moments. A guard describes how a prisoner "seemed to be trying to hook me up with his sister," but the guard told Rose "I wasn't interested."

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